UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/1159
11 November 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 11 NOVEMBER 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF TAJIKISTAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On the instructions of my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the Protocol on Political Guarantees During the Preparation for and Holding of the Elections to the Majlis-i Oli (the Parliament) of the Republic of Tajikistan, signed by the President of the Republic of Tajikistan H.E. Mr. Emomali Rakhmonov, and the Head of the Commission on National Reconciliation, Mr. Abdullo Nuri, in the city of Dushanbe on 5 November 1999 (see annex).

I should be very grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Rashid ALIMOV
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of the Republic of Tajikistan
to the United Nations

99-34049 (E) 111199 111199

/...

Annex

[Original: Russian]

Protocol on Political Guarantees during the Preparation for, and Holding of the Elections to the Majlis-i Oli of the Republic of Tajikistan

Mindful that the peace process in Tajikistan is entering its final phase,

Mindful that in accordance with the General Agreement the President and the Commission on National Reconciliation have pledged themselves to ensure a democratic atmosphere during the period of transition in Tajikistan,

Mindful that the parliament is responsible for setting the dates for the holding of elections to a new professional parliament observed by the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and the observer countries from the inter-Tajik talks,

With a view to preventing breaches of the law and restriction of rights, the President and the Commission on National Reconciliation guarantee the following:

1. The parliamentary elections are to take place in a free, fair and democratic atmosphere;

2. Observance of the principles of autonomy of the Central Commission on Elections and Referendums;

3. Incorporation of new representatives of the United Tajik Opposition (OTO) into the Central Commission on Elections and Referendums;

4. Incorporation into local electoral commissions, in the proportion of 20 per cent of their membership, of representatives of the parties and movements comprising OTO;

5. Signing of ballot papers for secret voting by representatives of political parties and movements;

6. Prevention by the Government of interference by representatives of law-enforcement organs with the election campaign and the promulgation of the results of that campaign through the mass media;

7. Strict compliance with the rules for the formation of electoral districts and electoral commissions and the re-registration and activity of candidates that the Majlis-i Oli of the Republic of Tajikistan lays down in the new Elections Act;

8. The Commission on National Reconciliation will prepare and submit a new Elections Act by 20 November 1999;

9. The necessary equal conditions will be created for registered candidates in the course of the election campaign;

10. Representatives of candidates' support groups or parties will participate as observers pursuant to the Elections Act in the activity of electoral districts;

11. Representatives of the United Nations, OSCE and the States guarantors of the General Agreement will participate, within the limits of the tasks set for them in that Agreement, in the organization and conduct of the elections to the Majlis-i Oli;

12. Following the setting of the dates for the elections to the Majlis-i Oli, the relevant Tajik authorities will address to all international organizations and interested countries an invitation to send representatives to observe the election campaign;

13. Access for parliamentary candidates to the mass media and the activity of the press organs of all parties taking part in the elections will be safeguarded in accordance with Tajik law;

14. Creation of the conditions necessary for campaigning by candidates, parties which put forward candidates and candidates' agents or support groups;

15. The relevant organs will ensure strict compliance with the Elections Act and, in the event that breaches of the Act are detected, the culprits will be called to account and this will be announced in the mass media;

16. Release of the 93 imprisoned supporters of OTO, in accordance with the Decree of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan on Amnesty;

17. Implementation of the decision of the Majlis-i Oli of 14 May 1999 concerning amnesty for OTO fighters;

18. Deletion of the names of amnestied persons from the computer system of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan;

19. Certification of the remaining former OTO fighters and their earliest possible incorporation into the power structures of the Republic of Tajikistan;

20. Provision of comprehensive facilities for former OTO fighters incorporated into the power structures of the Republic of Tajikistan;

21. Implementation of the General Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord in Tajikistan before the end of the period of transition;

22. The Commission on National Reconciliation will continue its work from 8 November 1999.

E. Rakhmonov
President of the Republic
of Tajikistan

A. Nuri
Chairman of the Commission on
National Reconciliation

Dushanbe
9 November 1999